



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 10995-2330

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                                      |   |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| In re Application of:                | ) |                                 |
|                                      | ) |                                 |
| Juro Ozeki et al.                    | ) | Group Art Unit: 1796            |
|                                      | ) |                                 |
| Application No.: 10/524,135          | ) | Examiner: Patrick Dennis Niland |
|                                      | ) |                                 |
| Filed: April 5, 2006                 | ) |                                 |
|                                      | ) |                                 |
| For: Polyphenylene Ether Based Resin | ) | Confirmation No.: 2415          |
| Composition                          | ) |                                 |

Commissioner for Patents  
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Sir:

**RESPONSE**

In the Final Office Action of July 22, 2009, the Examiner continued to reject claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over Shiraki in view of Coran.

Claim 1 relates to a polyphenylene ester based resin composition that comprises:

- (a) a polyphenylene ether based resin and optionally a styrene based resin;
- (b) a styrene based thermoplastic elastomer modified with an imidazolidinone compound; and
- (c) a clay that has been surface treated with a silane compound.

Shiraki discloses a polyphenylene ether resin (component (a) of the present invention) and a styrene based thermoplastic elastomer modified with an imidazolidinone compound (component (b) of the present invention). Further, Shiraki discloses clay as an example of a reinforcement or filler which may be incorporated into